



PINELLAS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION | SPRING 2026 EDITION

Connecting Generosity With Solutions Across Pinellas County

Through thoughtful philanthropy and strategic partnerships, Pinellas Community Foundation connects generosity with solutions that improve quality of life throughout our region.



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CONVERSATIONS ON CHARITABLE PLANNING, COMMUNITY IMPACT, AND TRUSTED PARTNERSHIPS

EPISODE 6
FEATURING GENTRY BYRNES CHIEF FIDUCIARY OFFICER WITH ADELPHI TRUST COMPANY



Listen in: The Giving Current Podcast



Pinellas Community Foundation's podcast, The Giving Current, explores the people, ideas, and partnerships shaping philanthropy across Pinellas County.

Each episode features conversations with nonprofit leaders, advisors, and community partners working to strengthen the region. Episodes are available online and offer a deeper look into the stories and perspectives behind the work happening throughout the community.



Open a Donor-Advised Fund at PCF

When you partner with Pinellas Community Foundation, you gain a personal philanthropic advisor who helps align your giving with your passions and long-term goals. With more than \$100 million granted to local causes, PCF offers the insight, local knowledge, and opportunities to stay connected to your impact, including invitations to events, nonprofit tours, and community experiences. Starting a donor-advised fund is simple and flexible, email giving@pinellascf.org or call 727-306-3142 to get started.



Help Us Shape What You See Next

We want to share the stories, updates, and resources that matter most to you.

What would you like to see more of?

- Impact stories
- Local nonprofit highlights
- Giving guidance
- Community updates

Scan to share your input in one quick question:



A Message from PCF Leadership



As we move into the spring and summer months, I'm encouraged by the steady progress we're seeing across Pinellas County and the strength of the organizations serving our community each day.

This season has offered a clear reminder of the role we play as a community foundation. Our work is not only about distributing resources, but about connecting generosity with real needs, and supporting the systems that allow nonprofits to respond, adapt, and continue their work over time.

Through ongoing conversations with nonprofit partners, donors, and advisors, we are seeing both the opportunities and the pressures facing our community. Organizations are navigating increased demand, evolving needs, and the realities of sustaining their work long term. At the same time, we continue to see a deep commitment across Pinellas County to meet those challenges with care, collaboration, and resilience.

Those moments of connection matter. They help us better understand where support is needed and how philanthropy can be aligned in ways that are thoughtful, responsive, and effective.

As the year continues, we remain grounded in a simple principle: community foundations connect generosity with solutions. We are grateful to work alongside partners who are committed to strengthening this community, and we look ahead with a continued focus on clarity, collaboration, and impact.

Duggan Cooley, *CEO, Pinellas Community Foundation*

Leadership Transition at Pinellas Community Foundation



Pinellas Community Foundation is pleased to announce that Steven M. Seibert, J.D., has stepped into the role of Chair of the Board of Directors.

Steve brings a long record of public service, nonprofit leadership, and community engagement. He recently retired as executive director of Florida Humanities, where he oversaw statewide programs exploring Florida's history, culture, and civic life. He previously served as a Pinellas County commissioner and chair and was appointed by Gov. Jeb Bush to lead Florida's Department of Community Affairs.

A Florida Supreme Court-certified mediator, Steve is widely recognized for his ability to bring people together to address complex challenges and advance practical solutions.

This transition also provides an opportunity to recognize Erica Smith Roodhouse, Esq., for her leadership as Board Chair. Her steady guidance, commitment to transparency, and focus on strong governance helped shape an important chapter for the foundation. We are grateful she will continue serving on the Board as Immediate Past Chair.

As Steve steps into this role, we look ahead with a sense of momentum and shared purpose. His experience and perspective will help guide the foundation as we continue connecting generosity with solutions across Pinellas County.

Investing in the Strength of Local Nonprofits

PCF Operating Grant Cycle 2026 - 2027

Earlier this year, Pinellas Community Foundation distributed the first installment of funding for its 2026–2027 Operating Grant Cycle, investing more than \$1 million into 60+ nonprofit organizations across Pinellas County.

In addition, eight organizations received one-year operating grants made possible through the generosity of community partners and fundholders.

PCF Operating grants provide flexible, unrestricted support that nonprofits can use where it matters most, from staffing and outreach to infrastructure and operational stability.

This year’s grant cycle also revealed a notable shift. More than 240 nonprofit organizations applied for support, compared with 180 applications in the previous cycle. That increase reflects growing demand for services across the county and the operational realities many nonprofits are navigating as community needs evolve.

Across applications, several patterns consistently emerged:

- Growing demand for services
- Limited staffing capacity
- Increased need for flexible funding
- Pressure on organizational infrastructure

By providing flexible, multi-year operating grants, Pinellas Community Foundation supports nonprofits where it matters most, from day-to-day operations to long-term sustainability. Insights from this year’s cycle strengthen our ability to align philanthropic resources with real community needs, ensuring that our approach remains responsive, informed, and grounded in what works.



Helping Pinellas Now

The Helping Pinellas Now Fund was created to provide rapid support when urgent needs arise across the community, as well as funding for unrestricted operating grants that help sustain Pinellas County nonprofits. Whether responding to natural disasters, economic challenges, or emerging community needs, the fund allows Pinellas Community Foundation to quickly mobilize resources and support nonprofit organizations working on the front lines.

Community members who want to support rapid-response efforts can contribute to the Helping Pinellas Now Fund at any time, helping ensure assistance reaches neighbors when it is needed most.





Hero to a Child

Through PCF Operating Grants, Hero to a Child is expanding support for children impacted by abuse, neglect, and abandonment. Their advocacy ensures young people involved in the dependency system receive the individualized guidance, education, and resources they need to move forward with stability and confidence. With trusted adults in their corner, children gain stronger pathways toward safety, opportunity, and long-term well-being.



American Stage

Through PCF Operating Grants, American Stage continues to bring accessible, community-centered theater to audiences across Pinellas County. This support helps sustain productions, educational programs, and outreach that make the performing arts available to a wide range of residents. Through storytelling and shared cultural experiences, American Stage enriches the creative life of our community.



St. Pete Free Clinic

Through PCF Operating Grants, St. Pete Free Clinic continues providing critical support for neighbors facing financial hardship. Their programs address essential needs including health care, food access, and housing stability, helping individuals and families navigate difficult moments with dignity. By meeting people where they are, the clinic helps create pathways toward stability and well-being.



Honey's Mini Therapy Adventures

Through PCF Operating Grants, Honey's Mini Therapy Adventures is expanding animal-assisted therapy programs that bring comfort, connection, and emotional support to children and families across Pinellas County. By pairing trained miniature animals with therapeutic programming, the organization helps create calming, joyful moments that support youth well-being and emotional resilience.



Community Dental Clinic

Through PCF Operating Grants, Community Dental Clinic continues providing essential oral health services for uninsured and underinsured residents across Pinellas County. By expanding access to preventative care and treatment, the clinic helps individuals maintain their health, reduce pain, and improve overall quality of life.



\$150,000 in Emergency Funding Supports Food Access Across Pinellas

Earlier this year, Pinellas Community Foundation deployed \$150,000 in emergency funding to support local food banks and community pantries across Pinellas County.

The funding helps ensure families have access to meals during times of economic pressure and rising living costs. Food banks and distribution partners continue to see increased demand as many households navigate higher housing costs, inflation, and other financial challenges. By directing resources quickly to organizations already serving the community, the foundation helps strengthen the network of nonprofits working to ensure no family goes without access to food. This support reflects the power of community philanthropy. When donors, fundholders, and partners come together, resources can be mobilized quickly to respond to urgent needs. Full story:



Bring Your Donor-Advised Fund Closer to Home

If your donor-advised fund feels distant or hard to personalize, transferring it to Pinellas Community Foundation (PCF) can bring your giving closer to the community you care about.

You keep the benefits you value, simple online grant recommendations, support for any qualified 501(c)(3), and the ability to involve family in your philanthropy. What changes is the level of connection. PCF provides local insight, responsive service, and opportunities to see your impact firsthand.

Through events like Nonprofit Bus Tours and community gatherings, fundholders can meet nonprofit leaders, learn about emerging needs, and experience the work happening across Pinellas County.

Transferring an existing DAF is simple and does not create a tax consequence. Our team coordinates the process so your giving continues seamlessly.

Scan the QR code to start a conversation with our team



PCF Spring 2026 Bus Tour: Seeing Impact Up Close

Pinellas Community Foundation invites fundholders, advisors, and community partners to experience local impact firsthand through its Spring Nonprofit Bus Tour, offering a closer look at the organizations strengthening communities across Pinellas County.

PCF began 2026 with its first tour of the year, visiting three organizations shaping the region in meaningful ways: St. Pete Free Clinic, the Woodson African American Museum of Florida, and AWIARE at Weedon Island Preserve. Each stop offered something distinct. Throughout the day, each visit reflected the depth, history, and humanity of the work happening throughout our community.



The day began at St. Pete Free Clinic, where participants learned about the organization's integrated approach to addressing food insecurity, healthcare access, housing stability, and economic mobility. Staff shared how their programs support neighbors not only in moments of crisis, but along pathways toward long-term stability. During the visit, tour participants also stepped into the work itself, organizing pantry items that would soon be distributed to families across the community.

The group then visited the Woodson African American Museum of Florida, where leaders shared the rich history of St. Petersburg's African American community and the museum's role in preserving and elevating those stories. Conversations highlighted the importance of cultural institutions as spaces for education, dialogue, and community identity.



The tour concluded at AWIARE at Weedon Island Preserve, where participants explored the organization's work in archaeology, environmental education, and historic preservation. Through research and community programs, AWIARE helps protect and interpret artifacts and cultural resources that tell the story of the region's earliest inhabitants.



At the close of the day, participants gathered for conversation and reflection, sharing insights from the experience and exploring new ways to support the organizations they encountered.

Nonprofit bus tours are designed to go beyond observation. They create opportunities for learning, connection, and meaningful dialogue about the needs and opportunities shaping Pinellas County. By bringing donors closer to the work, PCF helps strengthen the relationships that power community philanthropy.



PCF Membership: A Community of Giving, Connected to Impact

Pinellas Community Foundation's membership program offers donors a meaningful way to stay connected to the impact of their giving while supporting the evolving needs of Pinellas County.

Through an annual contribution starting at \$500, PCF Members join a growing community of individuals committed to strengthening local nonprofits and investing in solutions that improve quality of life across the region. Membership gifts support PCF's core funds, which provide flexible funding for nonprofits addressing issues such as food access, education, aging services, arts and culture, and environmental stewardship.

Beyond supporting grants, membership also offers opportunities for deeper engagement throughout the year. Members receive invitations to Community Impact Visits, and nonprofit tours, providing an inside look at the organizations and programs their generosity helps sustain.

PCF Membership is designed for donors who want to stay informed, ask questions, and see firsthand how collective generosity strengthens communities.

By coming together through membership, donors help ensure local nonprofits have the resources they need to continue serving Pinellas County today and into the future.

Join in three simple steps:

- 1 Choose your annual level by scanning the QR code.
- 2 Make your gift.
- 3 You're in—watch for member updates and invitations.



Interested in creating a fund at PCF?

Email our team at giving@pinellascf.org or call us directly at 727-306-3142. Let's explore what your giving could look like in our community.



Social Opportunity Works (SOW) Fund

The Social Opportunity Works (SOW) Fund at Pinellas Community Foundation invests in small, community-rooted nonprofits working to expand opportunity across Pinellas County. The fund pairs flexible grants with capacity-building support, helping organizations strengthen programs, grow leadership, and deepen their impact.

SOW prioritizes solutions developed by people closest to the challenges facing their communities, supporting initiatives that advance youth opportunity, arts and culture, health access, and neighborhood resilience in under-resourced areas.



Creating Opportunity Through the SOW Fund

For many nonprofits, growth isn't just about funding, it's about having the support to build, adapt, and expand their reach. Through the Social Opportunity Works (SOW) Fund, Pinellas Community Foundation helps make that possible for organizations across Pinellas County.

One organization supported through the SOW Fund is Faith Youth Services, which works with at-risk and high-risk youth across South St. Petersburg. Serving young people ages 10 to 21, the organization provides academic support, mentorship, life skills training, and workforce readiness programming designed to help youth build confidence and pursue stable futures.



The SOW grant helped Faith Youth Services expand a structured workforce development program for young adults ages 16 to 23 who are navigating barriers such as housing instability, limited employment opportunities, and gaps in academic support. Participants received job readiness training, resume development, interview preparation, and coaching in essential workplace skills including communication, teamwork, and accountability.

The results have been encouraging. Sixteen young people participated in the program, with 94 percent completing the full curriculum. More than half secured employment during or shortly after the program, while others continued their education while searching for part-time work. All participants left with stronger resumes, improved interview skills, and a clearer understanding of workplace expectations.

For many participants, the most significant change was confidence. One young participant, Lexi, entered the program unsure of her next step after studying welding and sign language. Through encouragement and coaching, she leaned into her passion for baking, secured a position at a local Publix bakery, and later enrolled in a culinary program at Pinellas Technical College. She has since continued building her career, even completing a management training program at Target.

Stories like Lexi's reflect the purpose of the Social Opportunity Works Fund: investing in organizations that meet young people where they are and help them move toward opportunity, stability, and long-term success.



Learn more and support the SOW Fund:





Why We Chose PCF: Terry and Marc Banning's Story

A Lifetime of Giving

For most of our married life, now 45 years this May, we've made it a priority to give back to our community in meaningful ways, whether through our time, talents, or financial resources. Giving has always been an important part of who we are as a couple.

A few years ago, we donated a condo we owned to establish our donor-advised fund. That experience prompted us to think more intentionally about how we could use those resources to create a lasting impact. It also led us to explore planned giving as a way to support the nonprofits closest to our hearts in a more thoughtful and sustained way. Establishing the fund felt like a natural next step in our giving journey.

Why We Chose Pinellas Community Foundation

We chose to partner with Pinellas Community Foundation in part because of our prior experience working with Duggan Cooley when he was with RCS on a project that was very close to our hearts. That connection gave us confidence in the organization and its leadership.

We also value PCF's deep knowledge of the local community and the wide range of nonprofits they support. We appreciate their guidance and the ease they provide in helping donors make thoughtful, impactful decisions.

A Giving Experience That Feels Supported

PCF has made the process of giving both simple and meaningful. They've helped us identify organizations doing important work and have given us the flexibility to support the causes we care about most. Their team has been supportive, knowledgeable, and always available to answer questions.

Seeing Impact Up Close

The PCF Bus Tour was a wonderful experience, and we've been fortunate to participate in two tours. It gave us the opportunity to see firsthand the impact that local nonprofits, some we weren't even aware of, are making in our community. Meeting the people behind these organizations and hearing their stories truly brought their work to life. It was both inspiring and reassuring, and it affirmed that we're giving in the right places and making a meaningful difference.

Where We Focus

We're especially passionate about supporting organizations that help meet basic needs and improve quality of life. One that has been especially meaningful to us is Habitat for Humanity Tampa Bay Gulfside and its mission to provide affordable homes in our community. This work resonates deeply with us because we spent many years owning and operating a full-service lumber yard, serving the local housing industry.

Being able to support efforts that help families achieve homeownership feels like a natural extension of that chapter of our lives and has been incredibly rewarding. At the same time, we believe it's equally important for families to have access to food, education, and healthcare in order to truly thrive, and we are passionate about supporting organizations that address those essential needs as well.

Looking Ahead

We hope to continue growing and funding our donor-advised fund so that we can support even more organizations over time. Our goal is to make a lasting, positive impact in our community and to be thoughtful with the resources we've been blessed to have.

We would absolutely encourage others to consider starting a fund with PCF. Working with PCF has made our giving more intentional, organized, and impactful. It's a meaningful way to support the causes you care about while also creating a lasting legacy of generosity. The process is straightforward, and the support they provide makes it easy to get started. We also hope our experience can inspire others to be thoughtful in their philanthropy and to invest in the well-being of the community for generations to come.



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Work With Your Advisor to Maximize Your Impact

Many donors work with financial advisors, CPAs, and estate planners to align their charitable giving with long-term financial goals.

Pinellas Community Foundation partners with you and your advisor to make giving more effective and aligned.

Together, you benefit from:

- Tax-efficient giving strategies that support your overall financial plan
- Flexible giving options, including donor-advised funds tailored to your goals
- Local insight and guidance to connect your giving to real community impact

Schedule a conversation with our team to explore your giving options.

